

**THE CITY OF TORONTO**

**Clerk's Department**

**Minutes of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee**

**Thursday, September 10, 1998**

The Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee met on Thursday, September 10, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:40 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair  
Councillor Elizabeth Brown  
Councillor Raymond Cho  
Councillor Gordon Chong  
Councillor Olivia Chow  
Councillor Rob Davis  
Councillor Michael Feldman  
Councillor John Filion  
Councillor Joan King  
Councillor George Mammoliti  
Councillor Michael Prue

**Also Present:**

Councillor Pam McConnell

**Confirmation of Minutes.**

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee held on July 16, 1998, were confirmed.

**119. New Decision by the Ontario Housing Corporation**

**Regarding the Sale of its Scattered Houses.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 24, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services advising, for information, that the Board of Directors of the Ontario Housing Corporation on July 16 and 17, 1998, adopted a recommendation from its Policy and Program Committee to expand the criteria governing the sale of vacant scattered units to include consideration of the length of the waiting list for the unit size in question; indicating that, in view of the length of waiting lists for subsidized units in the City of Toronto and the significantly lower annual turnover of units, MTHA staff has been advised to stop placing scattered houses "on hold" when they become vacant and to offer them to families on the waiting list; and noting that houses that become vacant may be sold if the cost to renovate or repair them to a suitable state for rental is considered excessive, and will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(a), Report No. 8)**

**120. Amendments to Housing By-laws.**

The Committee had before it a communication (August 4, 1998) from the Corporate Secretary, The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited, advising that the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited on July 27, 1998, had before it a report (July 22, 1998) from the City Solicitor advising that amendments are required to By-laws Nos. A-1, A-4, A-8 and A-9 of the Metro Housing Company in order to recognize the new position of Chief Operating Officer, correct the title of the Executive Vice-President's position with the City, and to modify the financial authority of the Chief Operating Officer; and recommending that:

- (1) the draft amending by-law [The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited By-law No. 20] attached to this report be enacted as a by-law of the Housing Company;
- (2) the amending by-law enacted pursuant to Recommendation No. (1) be forwarded to the Clerk of the City of Toronto for confirmation by City Council; and
- (3) the appropriate members of the Housing Company staff be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect to Recommendation No. (2).

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The Committee also had before it a communication (August 4, 1998) from the Corporate Secretary, The City of Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation, advising that the Board of Directors of The City of Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation (Cityhome) on July 27, 1998, had before it a report (July 23, 1998) from the City Solicitor advising that amendments are required to Cityhome By-law No. 9, as amended, in order to recognize the new position of Chief Operating Officer and to modify the financial authority of the Chief Operating Officer; and recommending that:

- (1) the draft amending by-law [Cityhome By-law No. 20] attached to this report be enacted as a by-law of Cityhome;
- (2) the amending by-law enacted pursuant to Recommendation No. (1) be forwarded to the Clerk of the City of Toronto for confirmation by City Council; and
- (3) the appropriate members of Cityhome staff be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect to Recommendation No. (2).

On motion by Councillor King, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned recommendations of the Boards of Directors of The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company Limited and The City of Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation embodied in the aforementioned communications from the Corporate Secretaries.

**(Clause No. 4, Report No. 8)**

**121. 11 Ordinance Street Youth Shelter Project.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 28, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the development of the youth shelter project at 11 Ordinance Street; and recommending that:

- (1) Council confirm the selection of Eva's Place as the lead agency to develop and operate the extended youth shelter project at 11 Ordinance Street, and authorize staff to enter into agreements, in form and content satisfactory to the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services and the Commissioner of Corporate Services, with regard to:
  - (a) lease of the building and operation of the program by Eva's Place; and
  - (b) disbursement of capital grants to Eva's Place as renovation work progresses, up to a total maximum of \$500,000.00 (funds have been allocated for this purpose in the Capital Leverage Fund);

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- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

**(Clause No. 5, Report No. 8)**

**122. Hostel Ombudsperson Pilot Project.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 20, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee on July 16, 1998, to report on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons respecting a one-year Hostel Ombudsperson pilot project, and recommending that:

- (1) in their 1999 budget, the Shelter, Housing and Support Division include a request of \$100,000.00 for a purchase of service contract to implement a one-year Hostel Ombudsperson pilot project;
- (2) regular 80/20 percent cost-sharing be sought from the Ministry of Community and Social Services and, subject to Provincial funding approval, staff be directed to implement a request for proposal process through which community agencies can submit proposals to operate the Hostel Ombudsperson office;
- (3) the pilot project be evaluated according to its satisfaction of project objectives of providing a neutral resource for the protection of hostel user rights and in facilitating fair and equitable access to the hostel system, with a report back by the Commissioner after one year; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the aforementioned report.

(Budget Committee - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(c), Report No. 8)**

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**123. Health and Safety Allocations for Hostels.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 27, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services respecting health and safety allocations for hostels; and recommending that:

- (1) Toronto Hostel Services be authorized to administer 100 percent Provincial funds to hostels for minor capital needs;

- (2) the following allocations totalling \$114,961.69 be approved:

StreetCity (shower, bathroom, kitchen repairs)	\$ 20,791.50
WoodGreen - The Pines (fire safety upgrades)	29,745.00
Fred Victor Women's Shelter (air conditioning system)	30,000.00
Horizon's for Youth (fire safety renovations)	963.00
Rendu House (kitchen upgrades)	21,925.00
Touchstone Youth Centre (building upgrades)	<u>11,537.19</u>
Total	\$114,961.69

- (3) 80 percent of these amounts be advanced to the hostels as soon as required, with the remaining 20 percent released after the work is completed and appropriate expenditure documents have been submitted; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

**(Clause No. 6, Report No. 8)**

**124. Homes for the Aged - Uncollectible Account.**

The Committee had before it a report (July 29, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services recommending that:

- (1) authority be given to the Homes for the Aged Division to write-off the arrears accumulated on behalf of F.M. while he was a resident at Kipling Acres Home for the Aged; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take necessary action to give effect thereto.

On motion by Councillor Feldman, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

**(Clause No. 7, Report No. 8)**

**125. Canadian Children's Environmental Health Network.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 19, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee to report on the recommendations of the Children and Youth Action Committee regarding a proposal to establish a Canadian Children's Environmental Health Network; and recommending that the report be received.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(d), Report No. 8)**

**126. Transportation for Unemployed and Low Income Persons in Toronto.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 12, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing a status report on the sub-committee convened to address the issue of free transportation for unemployed and low income people in Toronto; advising that the Community and Neighbourhood Services Department has instituted a one-year transportation assistance pilot project for homeless and socially isolated persons as a result of the "On the Move" research, and that a evaluation of the project will be completed upon its conclusion on December 31, 1998.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee received the aforementioned report; and further directed that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to submit a progress report on the pilot project to the meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee to be held on November 5, 1998.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(g), Report No. 8)**

**127. Result of Proposal Call for Eviction  
Prevention Programs for the City of Toronto.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 31, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an update on the results of the proposal call for eviction prevention programs for the City of Toronto, including information with respect to organization selection and the type of activities they will undertake; noting that, of the nine proposals received, parts of three proposals were accepted from the Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation; the West Toronto Community Legal Clinic and the Federation of Metro Tenants Associations; and recommending that the report be received for information.

The Committee received the aforementioned report.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(b), Report No. 8)**

**128. The Future Management of The Metropolitan  
Toronto Housing Authority.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 26, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee on July 16, 1998, to review and comment on the communications received from The Public Housing Fightback Campaign, the Regent Park Community Health Centre and the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 767, regarding issues affecting the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority.

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The Committee also had before it communications from the following:

- (September 9, 1998) from Ms. C. Fenn, Chair, Greenbrae Residents Group;
- (September 9, 1998) from Ms. Anne Dubas, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79; and
- (September 9, 1998) from Mr. Peter Clutterbuck, Co-Director, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto.

The following persons appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Angela Robertson, Community Social Planning Council of Toronto; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Ms. Grace Buller, Canadian Pensioners Concerned; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Howard Tessler, Federation of Metro Tenants Association; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Barry Rieder, Jane/Finch Community Ministry; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Ms. Pauline Miller, Furgrove Tenants Association; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Cliff Martin, Mr. Vance Latchford and Ms. Ann Fitzpatrick, The Public Housing Fightback Campaign; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Wally Devoe, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 767;
- Ms. Nicole Seguin, Regent Park Community Health Centre;

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski appointed Councillor Davis Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- Ms. Veronica Hering; and submitted a brief in regard thereto; and

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski resumed the Chair.

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- Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River, and asked questions of the deputations.

(Councillor Elizabeth Brown, at the meeting of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee on September 10, 1998, declared her interest in that portion of the Committee's discussions related to any contracts for building and maintenance of elevators, in that her husband is Vice-President of Engineering of Montgomery Kone Elevator Co. Limited.)

A. Councillor Mammoliti moved that:

- (1) the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority Board be requested to suspend any decisions on privatization of its housing stock until the Provincial Government makes a final decision on the level of government that would take ownership of these properties; and
- (2) the City of Toronto immediately conduct its own review of the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority housing stock and operations; and that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee be requested to compile this information for report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee, as soon as possible.

B. Councillor Chong moved that:

- (1) the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority Board be requested to forward to City Council its most recent survey indicating residents' satisfaction; and
- (2) the report dated August 26, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be received for information.

The Committee recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 2:12 p.m.

Members Present:

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Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair  
Councillor Elizabeth Brown  
Councillor Raymond Cho  
Councillor Gordon Chong  
Councillor Olivia Chow  
Councillor Rob Davis  
Councillor Michael Feldman  
Councillor Joan King  
Councillor George Mammoliti  
Councillor Michael Prue

The Committee resumed consideration of the report dated August 26, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, respecting the future management of The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority.

C. Councillor Prue moved that:

- (1) the Province of Ontario be requested to transfer to the City of Toronto, as soon as possible, the entire Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority (MTHA) housing stock, along with sufficient monies to bring all the housing up to building, fire and relevant code standards within two years; and
- (2) the City of Toronto guarantee not to sell any of the assisted housing properties within a negotiated time frame.

D. Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Province of Ontario be requested to amend the necessary regulations regarding appointments to the MTHA Board of Directors to enable the City of Toronto to appoint a majority of Board members from City Council; and
- (2) the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority be requested:
  - (a) to establish clear performance standards, such as the speed with which repairs would be completed, and provide reports to the City of Toronto's Community

and Neighbourhood Services Committee on the adherence of these standards;

- (b) to consider receiving deputations from the public at its public meetings; and
- (c) to consider the inclusion of a non-economic eviction policy in the operating directives under which private management works.

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski appointed Councillor Chow Acting Chair in order to speak to the foregoing matter.

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Chong, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2) of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Chong, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Mammoliti, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Mammoliti, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) of the foregoing motion C. by Councillor Prue, it was carried.

Councillor Prue requested the permission of the Committee to withdraw part (2) of his foregoing motion C.

The Committee concurred in the foregoing request.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2)(a) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2)(b) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2)(c) of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee recommended to Council that:

- (1) the Province of Ontario be requested to:
  - (a) transfer to the City of Toronto, as soon as possible, the entire Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority (MTHA) housing stock, along with sufficient monies to bring all the housing up to building, fire and relevant code standards within two years;
  - (b) amend the necessary regulations regarding appointments to the MTHA Board of Directors to enable the City of Toronto to appoint a majority of Board members from City Council;
- (2) the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority Board be requested:
  - (a) to suspend any decisions on privatization of its housing stock until the Provincial Government makes a final decision on the level of government that would take ownership of these properties;
  - (b) to establish clear performance standards, such as the speed with which repairs would be completed, and provide reports to the City of Toronto's Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee on the adherence of these standards;
  - (c) to consider receiving deputations from the public at its public meetings;
  - (d) to consider the inclusion of a non-economic eviction policy in the operating directives under which private management works; and
  - (e) to forward to City Council its most recent survey indicating residents' satisfaction;
- (3) the City of Toronto immediately conduct its own review of the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority housing stock and operations; and that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee be requested to compile this information for report thereon to the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee, as soon as possible; and

- (4) the report dated August 26, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be received for information.”

**(Clause No. 2, Report No. 8)**

**129. Transfer Plan for Child Care Services and  
Adjustment to Child Care Support for Ontario Works.**

The Committee had before it a report (September 1, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing an outline of the transfer plan for child care jointly negotiated between the City and the Ministry of Community and Social Services, as well as the additional provincial subsidy available to support the child care needs of Ontario Works participants, and describing the associated adjustments the City is expected to make in its child care strategy for Ontario Works clients; and recommending that:

- (1) the \$590,156.00 required as the 1998 municipal cost-sharing contribution to the additional \$3,147,500.00 provincial subsidy offered to enhance the funding support for child care within the Ontario Works program be found from the surplus user revenue identified within the Children's Services appropriation in the June 30, 1998, Corporate Variance Report and approval be given to adjust the 1998 and 1999 Children's Services budgets accordingly;
- (2) the City negotiate with the Province the fiscal use of the additional provincial funds to meet the costs associated with the current level of Ontario Works child care in 1998 and develop a strategy for implementation in 1999 that would increase the number of Ontario Works clients' children who could be supported with the annualized enhanced provincial funding;
- (3) the City accept the \$338,000.00 in one time provincial transitional funding to support the technological activities identified in the child care transfer plan;
- (4) the Department consult with the community concerning the most appropriate strategies for implementing the requirements of Ontario Works Child Care and report further on the outcome of this consultation recommending specific changes in response to the enhanced level of provincial funding and in response to unmet child care service demand;
- (5) the jointly negotiated plan for the transfer of child care services be approved and the Department continue negotiations with the Province for adequate administrative support for the increased program responsibilities and an expeditious transfer date;

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- (6) the Office of the Mayor, with the assistance of the Children's Advocate and the support of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services continue to advocate to the Province the City's need for child care subsidy expansion to meet the significant service demands of Ontario Works and other eligible clients; and
- (7) the Department report back to Council on the results of the ongoing negotiations with the Province.

The Committee also had before it a communication (September 9, 1998) from Ms. Anne Dubas, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 79, urging the Committee to commit any additional provincial funding to making high quality, licensed child care accessible to more children and their parents.

The following persons appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Cheryl MacDonald, Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Mr. Spyros Volonakis, Child Care Advisory Committee; and submitted a brief in regard thereto;
- Ms. Samantha Patton, Director, Parkdale Beach Child Care; and submitted a brief in regard thereto; and
- Ms. Fatima Alvis, Child Care Director, St. Stephen's Community House.

Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) the Committee recommend to the Budget Committee, and Council the adoption of the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to amending Recommendation No. (4) to read as follows:

“(4) the Department consult with the community concerning the most appropriate strategies for implementing the requirements of Ontario Works Child Care and report further on the outcome of this consultation recommending specific changes in response to the enhanced level of provincial funding and in response to unmet child care service demand;

and further that no changes take place until completion of the community consultation and resulting report;”;

- (2) the City of Toronto reconfirm its support for a high quality child care system, the policies of first come, first served, equity and informed parental choice; and
- (3) the Province of Ontario again be requested to pay its share of the subsidies of 2,000 children, as proposed by the City of Toronto.

Councillor Prue moved that Recommendation No. (6) contained in the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be amended to read as follows.

- “(6) the Children’s Advocate, with the assistance of the Office of the Mayor and the support of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services continue to advocate to the Province the City’s need for child care subsidy expansion to meet the significant service demands of Ontario Works and other eligible clients; and”.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (1) the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (2) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of part (3) of the foregoing motion by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion by Councillor Prue, it was carried.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee recommended to the Budget Committee, and Council:

- (1) the adoption of the attached report dated September 1, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, subject to:
  - (a) amending Recommendation No. (4) to read as follows:

- ‘(4) the Department consult with the community concerning the most appropriate strategies for implementing the requirements of Ontario Works Child Care and report further on the outcome of this consultation recommending specific changes in response to the enhanced level of provincial funding and in response to unmet child care service demand; and further that no changes take place until completion of the community consultation and resulting report;’;

and

- (b) amending Recommendation No. (6) to read as follows:

- ‘(6) the Children’s Advocate, with the assistance of the Office of the Mayor and the support of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services continue to advocate to the Province the City’s need for child care subsidy expansion to meet the significant service demands of Ontario Works and other eligible clients; and’;

- (2) that the Province of Ontario again be requested to pay its share of the subsidies of 2,000 children, as proposed by the City of Toronto; and
- (3) that the City of Toronto reconfirm its support for a high quality child care system, the policies of first come, first served, equity and informed parental choice.”

(Budget Committee; Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; c. General Manager, Children’s Services Division - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(e), Report No. 8)**

**130. The Public Housing Inquiry.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 31, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services responding to the request of the Committee on July 16, 1998, to report on a series of recommendations contained in The Public Housing Inquiry Final Report, forwarded by the Advisory Committee on Homeless and Socially Isolated Persons; and recommending that Council:

- (1) receive the report of The Public Housing Inquiry;

- (2) inform the members of The Public Housing Inquiry of the City's intention to consult with social housing tenants and providers in developing its capacity to administer the social housing programs; and
- (3) request that the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services report back on plans for the consultations.

Mr. Cliff Martin and Mr. Vance Latchford, on behalf of The Public Housing Fightback Campaign, appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter; and submitted a copy of the document, entitled "The Public Housing Inquiry, Province-Wide Consultation on the Future of Public Housing - Final Report & Recommendations" dated April 2, 1998.

On motion by Councillor Chow, the Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the aforementioned report.

**(Clause No. 3, Report No. 8)**

**131. Update on the Provincial Transfer of Responsibilities  
to the Social Services and Children's Services Division.**

The Committee had before it a report (August 27, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing, for information, an update on:

- (1) the transfer of responsibility for managing single parent and temporary care cases currently managed by the Province to Toronto's Ontario Works program; and
- (2) the transfer of system management responsibility for the wage subsidy program, special needs resourcing, approved corporations serving special needs children, and family resource centres from the Province to the Children's Services Division.

On motion by Councillor Prue, the Committee deferred consideration of the aforementioned report until its next meeting to be held on October 8, 1998, and directed that this matter be considered as the first item of business on the agenda for such meeting.

(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 8(f), Report No. 8)**

**132. Response to Discussion Paper on Social Housing Reform.**

The Committee had before it a report (September 1, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services providing a response to the recommendations of the Province's Social Housing Committee on the Reform of Social Housing; and recommending that Council:

- (1) respond to the Province's Social Housing Committee's request for feedback on its proposed reforms to social housing programs by:
  - (a) endorsing the recommendations proposed in the Social Housing Committee discussion paper, as summarized in Appendix A of this report;
  - (b) endorsing the recommendations proposed by housing staff of the Greater Toronto Area, as summarized in Appendix B of this report; and
  - (c) endorsing the position taken by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, as summarized in Appendix C of this report, with the exception of the request for periodic reviews of provider costs and financial adjustments;
- (2) write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing about the following:
  - (a) to commend the Social Housing Committee and its Working Groups for the excellent and difficult work they have done to develop and propose reforms which are practical and which balance the divergent, and often competing, interests of social housing stakeholders;
  - (b) to express Council's continued interest in having municipalities, and the City of Toronto in particular, involved in further design and implementation of program reform, and in other matters related to social housing which directly impact on the City;
  - (c) to inform the Minister that the City will require establishment of capital reserve funding at an adequate level to meet the needs of public housing, and that this newly established reserve be funded by the Province at no cost to the City;
  - (d) to clearly state Council's position that the decisions related to management, administration and ownership of public housing should occur at the municipal level, and that ownership should be transferred to the City at no cost;
  - (e) to advise the Minister that accountability for social housing must be through elected councils, and that Council does not support the establishment of third

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- parties or special purpose bodies by the Province to administer social housing;
- (f) to encourage the Minister and the Province, in response to concerns expressed to the Social Housing Committee and by Council about the shortage of affordable housing, to acknowledge that provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government; and
  - (g) to urge the Province to work with the Federal Government and municipalities to improve the supply of affordable housing;
- (3) write to the Federal Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing about the following:
- (a) to advise the Minister of Council's support for program reform as proposed;
  - (b) to request that the Federal Government resume negotiations with the Province to ensure that transferring administration of cost-shared social housing programs to the municipal level can proceed;
  - (c) to encourage the Minister and the Federal Government, in response to concerns expressed to the Social Housing Committee and by Council about the shortage of affordable housing, to acknowledge that provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government; and
  - (d) to urge the Federal Government to work with the Province and municipalities to improve the supply of affordable housing;
- (4) given the September 24, 1998, deadline for responding to the Social Housing Committee, authorize the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee to submit a response prior to Council approval, and subject to any recommendations Council may make at its meeting on October 1 and 2, 1998; and
- (5) recognizing that GTA municipalities have shared issues around social housing, encourage and support GTA councils and staff in their continued efforts to work collaboratively on shared issues.

The Committee also had before it communications from the following in connection with the foregoing matter:

- (June 19, 1998) from Councillor Jack Layton, Don River, forwarding for endorsement the motion adopted by the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs on June 19, 1998, with respect to the orderly transfer of social housing responsibilities; and wherein it recommended that:

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“THEREFORE be it resolved that the Premier of Ontario be requested to rescind and defer all bills to municipalities for social housing and agree to start billing on January 1, 1999, permitting consultation and negotiation to proceed in a meaningful way, and subject to the passage of legislation providing for the transfer of social housing program oversight responsibilities to municipalities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs Committee endorse a response to the letter of April 8, 1998, from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing with respect to social housing, as per the letter to the Committee of May 4, 1998, from Keith Ward; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs Committee authorize Keith Ward to make a presentation to the Social Housing Committee and to prepare a written submission for the signature of the Chair, confining said submissions to positions already adopted by the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs Committee; including points raised in his letter to the Committee of June 5, 1998;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministers of Health, Community and Social Services, and Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to consult with municipalities on the definition of supportive housing and the specific projects to be covered by that definition prior to a final determination of projects to be reassigned; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs Committee endorse a letter to the Minister Responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation advising that there should be no impediment to federal consent to the transfer of program oversight responsibilities from the provincial to the municipal level, commensurate with new municipal financial obligations; noting that the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada ‘is not attempting to block the signing of a Social Housing Agreement in Ontario’, but is instead legitimately concerned about a broad agreement encompassing co-ops with federal operating agreements; and further calling for a clear and immediate separation of agreement issues so that a transfer to municipalities of strictly provincially administered agreements can occur.”;

- (September 10, 1998) from Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River, and Councillor Joe Pantalone, Trinity-Niagara, outlining their concerns with respect to the Discussion Paper on Social Housing Reform; and
- (September 9, 1998) from Mr. Tom Clement, Executive Director, Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto Inc., requesting that the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services on the “Response to the Discussion Paper on Social Housing Reform” be deferred in order to allow them the opportunity

to respond to the recommendations contained in the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services.

The following persons appeared before the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Joanne Campbell, General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division, Community and Neighbourhood Services Department, and provided the Committee with an overhead slide presentation on Social Housing Reform; and
- Mr. Cliff Martin and Mr. Vance Latchford, The Public Housing Fightback Campaign.

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski appointed Councillor Chow Acting Chair, and vacated the Chair.

A. Councillor Feldman moved that:

- (1) Recommendation No. (1)(a), contained in the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be amended by adding the words “in principle” after the word “endorsing”, so that such recommendation reads as follows:

“(1)(a) endorsing, in principle, the recommendations proposed in the Social Housing Committee discussion paper, as summarized in Appendix A of this report;”;

- (2) Recommendation No. (2) be amended by adding the following new recommendation (h):

“(2)(h) the Province of Ontario be requested to wind down the Ontario Housing Corporation and local housing authorities in their present form, and provide municipalities with the authority to determine the appropriate delivery mechanism for public housing; and”;

- (3) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to develop a business case to alter the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority management

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structure and initiate a joint analysis of ownership options;  
and

- (4) the Province of Ontario be advised that the September 24, 1998, deadline date for submissions in response to the Discussion Paper on Social Housing Reform, and the September 28, 1998, date for deputations at the Social Housing Committee are not acceptable.
- (5) the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee be directed to submit to the provincial Social Housing Committee the Committee's recommendations and the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, due to the September 24, 1998, deadline date referred to, and to advise the Social Housing Committee that a deputation will not be made to such Committee prior to City Council considering the matter on October 1 and 2, 1998.

Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski resumed the Chair.

B. Councillor Chow moved that:

- (1) Recommendation No. (2)(e) be amended by adding at the beginning of the recommendation the words "should an agreement between the Provincial and the Federal Governments not be realized", so that such recommendation reads as follows:

"(2)(e) should an agreement between the Provincial and the Federal Governments not be realized, to advise the Minister that accountability for social housing must be through elected councils, and that Council does not support the establishment of third parties or special purpose bodies by the Province to administer social housing;"

- (2) Recommendation No. (2) be amended by adding the following new recommendation (i):

(2)(i) to advise that City Council supports the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto Inc. proposal to

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administer the unilateral Federal co-op monies on behalf of the Federal Government;”;

- (3) Recommendation No. (3)(b) be amended to read as follows:

“(3)(b) to request that the Federal Government resume negotiations with the Province to ensure that transferring administration of cost-shared social housing programs to the municipal level can proceed with the exception of the unilaterally federally-funded co-op sector;”

- (4) City Council confirm its principle of consulting with tenants regarding social housing issues and work towards the goal of tenants’ self-management when and where it is feasible;

- (5) City Council endorse the motion adopted by the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs on June 19, 1998, with respect to the orderly transfer of social housing responsibilities; and that the Province of Ontario be advised accordingly; and

- (6) part (4) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Feldman be amended by adding thereto the following words:

“and that the Social Housing Committee be requested to extend the deadline date for submissions to allow for public consultation and City Council’s input;”.

C. Councillor King moved that:

- (1) Recommendation No. (2)(f) be amended to read as follows:

“(2)(f) to request the Minister and the Province to acknowledge that the provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government and to commit to bring a partnership agreement forward, by the year 2000, which will ensure financing of new affordable housing;”;

- (2) part (3) of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Chow be amended to provide that the following words be added to Recommendation No. (3)(b):

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“and further that all Federal funds (based on 1995-1996 budget levels) must be flowed through to the municipalities to support housing;”; and

(3) Recommendation No. (3)(c) be amended to read as follows:

“(3)(c) to request the Minister and the Federal Government to acknowledge that the provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government and to commit to bring a partnership agreement forward, by the year 2000, which will ensure financing of new affordable housing;”;

D. Councillor Prue moved that City Council request the Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) and the Federal Liberal Caucus not to agree with the Provincial Government unless LUMCO is satisfied with the situation after negotiations have occurred.

Upon the question of the adoption of parts (1) - (5) of the foregoing motion A. by Councillor Feldman, they were carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of parts (1) - (6) of the foregoing motion B. by Councillor Chow, they were carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of parts (1) - (3) of the foregoing motion C. by Councillor King, they were carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motion D. by Councillor Prue, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, as amended, it was carried.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Committee:

“The Committee recommended to Council that:

(A) the Province of Ontario be advised that the September 24, 1998, deadline date for submissions in response to the Discussion Paper on Social Housing Reform, and the September 28, 1998, date for deputations at the Social Housing Committee are not acceptable; and that the Social Housing Committee be requested to extend the deadline date for submissions to allow for public consultation and City Council’s input;

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- (B) the report dated September 1, 1998, from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be adopted, subject to:
- (i) amending Recommendation No. (1) (a) by adding the words “in principle” after the word “endorsing”, so that such recommendation reads as follows:  
  
‘(1)(a) endorsing, in principle, the recommendations proposed in the Social Housing Committee discussion paper, as summarized in Appendix A of this report;’;
  - (ii) amending Recommendation No. (2)(e) by adding at the beginning of the recommendation the words “should an agreement between the Provincial and the Federal Governments not be realized”, so that such recommendation reads as follows:  
  
‘(2)(e) should an agreement between the Provincial and the Federal Governments not be realized, to advise the Minister that accountability for social housing must be through elected councils, and that Council does not support the establishment of third parties or special purpose bodies by the Province to administer social housing;’;
  - (iii) amending Recommendation No. (2)(f) to read as follows:  
  
‘(2)(f) to request the Minister and the Province to acknowledge that the provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government and to commit to bring a partnership agreement forward, by the year 2000, which will ensure financing of new affordable housing;’;
  - (iv) adding to Recommendation No. (2) the following new recommendations (h) and (i):  
  
‘(2)(h) the Province of Ontario be requested to wind down the Ontario Housing Corporation and local housing authorities in their present form, and provide municipalities with the authority to determine the appropriate delivery mechanism for public housing; and

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- (2)(i) to advise that City Council supports the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto Inc. proposal to administer the unilateral Federal co-op monies on behalf of the Federal Government;';
- (v) amending Recommendation No. (3)(b) to read as follows:
  - '(3)(b) to request that the Federal Government resume negotiations with the Province to ensure that transferring administration of cost-shared social housing programs to the municipal level can proceed with the exception of the unilaterally federally-funded co-op sector; and further that all Federal funds (based on 1995-1996 budget levels) must be flowed through to the municipalities to support housing;';
- (vi) amending Recommendation No. (3)(c) to read as follows:
  - '(3)(c) to request the Minister and the Federal Government to acknowledge that the provision of social housing is a shared responsibility of all three levels of government and to commit to bring a partnership agreement forward, by the year 2000, which will ensure financing of new affordable housing;';
- (C) City Council endorse the motion adopted by the GTA Mayors and Regional Chairs on June 19, 1998, with respect to the orderly transfer of social housing responsibilities; and that the Province of Ontario be advised accordingly;
- (D) City Council request the Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) and the Federal Liberal Caucus not to agree with the Provincial Government unless LUMCO is satisfied with the situation after negotiations have occurred;
- (E) City Council confirm its principle of consulting with tenants regarding social housing issues and work towards the goal of tenants' self-management when and where it is feasible; and
- (F) the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services be requested to develop a business case to alter the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority management structure and initiate a joint analysis of ownership options;

and further directed the Chair of the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee to submit to the provincial Social Housing Committee the foregoing recommendations and the report of the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services, due to the September 24, 1998, deadline date referred to, and to advise the Social Housing Committee that a deputation will not be made to such Committee prior to City Council considering the matter on October 1 and 2, 1998."

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(Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair, Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee; Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River; Councillor Joe Pantalone, Trinity-Niagara; Ms. Joanne Campbell, General Manager, Shelter, Housing and Support Division, Community and Neighbourhood Services Department; Mr. Cliff Martin, The Public Housing Fightback Campaign - September 10, 1998)

**(Clause No. 1, Report No. 8)**

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:55 p.m.

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Chair.